COMMONS DEBATES

However, the fact that we reject the bill as it is does not mean that we accept abortion when the mother's life or health is endangered. We are against such a thing, we want nature to be respected. We are against such a thing, we want

Nature was not created by psychiatrists, nor by the Minister of Justice nor by the Prime Minister of Canada. Nature was created by a superior being, who is not the Minister of Justice. We must conform to that nature. Of course, there are ups and downs, tragedies, and death.

Mothers are not the only ones to die. I wonder if the minister will not eventually introduce another bill dealing with fatherhood, on behalf of *male* fathers of families.

And so it goes: we go off our rockers in the name of civilization. In the name of civilization, we no longer know what to do. In the name of civilization we allow all kinds of organizations to push us around, organizations which are absolutely unknown to the Canadian people, unknown to Parliament. A few people only understand what is going on; the others are all at sea.

We seldom see members speak up on the government side, as the hon. member for Montmorency did, and openly take a stand in favour of the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce. The minister does not seem too pleased with his attitude, coming from a Liberal member, and does not seem pleased either with the support of the hon. member for Montmorency with regard to the amendment, because he does not want to change the law.

A bill is introduced and we are told: Follow the leader and vote in favour of the whole caboodle. This is a "package deal" as they say in English.

Mr. Speaker, the few Liberal members who get on their feet will be praised by the people more than those who remain stuck to their seat with Lepage glue. This is obvious. The people of Quebec will commend them too, because this is not a question of religion. We are Catholics, it goes without saying, but we have gathered evidence from people who, though they are not Catholics, are strongly opposed to this bill and against statements such as: "the life of the mother is in danger or her health will be directly or seriously affected".

Mr. Speaker, it is not just a question of religion, it is a question of Christian morality. There are Christians not only among Catholics, but all over Canada.

Criminal Code

We sincerely believe that the government has no right to open doors which will give rise to abuses, to more or less justified abortions. The government is aware of this, and the minister also, and nevertheless he is good and patient. Sitting at his desk, he is listening, he is thinking and he calls us doctors from time to time. We do not speak on behalf of medecine at all, but on behalf of life that no man has a right to jeopardize. That life may be only embryonic, but it is a life there and thereafter. The nonsense of such a bill is that we are about to permit murder.

We are asked in the Criminal Code to spare from the rope those who have taken the life of others. But those who are about to be born, let us kill them under the pretext that the life of the mother is endangered or her health will be seriously impaired.

Now, neither the Minister of Justice, nor I know anything about the subject. As a matter of fact, even physicians do not agree. The hon. member for Hull (Mr. Isabelle), who is a doctor, says something and another doctor who went to medical school with him, says the opposite.

When one speaks as a Liberal rather than as a physician, then one repudiates medicine.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): When you speak of credit, what do you repudiate? Credit?

An hon. Member: We serve the country.

Mr. Caouette: Even if we lose credit, we nevertheless work for our country, and if credit is lost, Mr. Speaker, it is not the fault of the Ralliement créditiste, but of the Liberals, because they are the ones who play with credit. The credit of the whole country. The credit of the whole nation good for the others.

Mr. Speaker, those are the remarks I wanted to make on that matter because I do not think that someone can prove beyond doubt that a mother will die in child-birth.

Mr. Speaker, nobody can be sure, not even the greatest scientist. So, how is it possible to be absolutely sure that the mother will die? Furthermore, neither the doctor nor anyone else can decide of the place or time of a person's death.

So I think the Minister of Justice who pilots this bill through the house should withdraw it, and stop saying all the time that we are filibustering, as the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Macdonald) said this afternoon. That is not the case. Let them introduce other pieces of legislation. Let them cast that one

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